MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 JANUARY 1983

Khaldah Talks

After the third round of Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. talks in Khaldah, the spokesman for the Lebanese delegation announced in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio that the three sides will continue efforts to reach agreement on the agenda of the negotiations at their next meeting, which will be held in Qiryat Shemona on 6 January. During the talks in Khaldah, the Lebanese delegation reiterated its stand that the question of the Israeli withdrawal should be the first item on the agenda of the negotiations and called for bypassing "peripheral complications" and discussing substantive issues, the radio reported. In a statement broadcast by the radio, the Lebanese Information Ministry reaffirmed that Lebanon rejects Israel's demand for normalization but is willing to broaden the Lebanese-Israeli armistice agreement of 1949. There is no fear of any Israeli refusal to withdraw from Lebanon now that the chairman of the Lebanese delegation, Antoine Fattal, has emphasized that working toward an agenda is not a "prerequisite" and that his delegation will surpass this to work toward the heart of the problem, the statement added.

Earlier, in an interview reported by Beirut radio, Fattal said the Israelis have displayed flexibility on the normalization issue and opined that the Israelis and Lebanese will ultimately reach a mutually acceptable formula. He noted that the Israelis are not insisting on using the word "normalization." However, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Israel will not give up its demands on the issue of normalization with Lebanon, even though the term used for normalization is a semantic matter only, IDF radio reported. He also said reports from the talks indicate that Lebanon is showing willingness to meet Israel halfway on the normalization issue, according to Jerusalem radio. Meanwhile, in remarks broadcast by the radio, Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir warned the Lebanese against harboring illusions that Israel will concede its positions in Lebanon without having achieved a settlement that will guarantee a new situation.

In another development, a Lebanese official source denied "rumors" circulated by Israel that bilateral negotiations between Israel and Lebanon are taking place separately and without U.S. involvement, Beirut radio reported.

Lebanese Military, Security Situation

The IDF recently discovered five Katyusha rocket launchers in southern Lebanon aimed at Qiryat Shemona and four more aimed at a major IDF base, Jerusalem radio reported. The launchers were intended for use during the recent talks in Qiryat Shemona or on the 18th anniversary of the start of Fatah's activity, the radio said.

Violent factional clashes continued in the northern city of Tripoli throughout 3 January. Lebanese police sources cited by AFP said 30 people were killed and another 50 were wounded, while Voice of Lebanon and Beirut radios gave somewhat lower casualty figures. Although the Voice of Lebanon said a Syrian military delegation arrived in Tripoli to discuss measures to stop the fighting, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said the Syrian delegation's arrival was delayed on a "pretext" of bad weather. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan announced earlier that he had asked the Syrian Government to take action to help end the fighting, Beirut radio reported.

Israeli-PLO Contacts

Israel does not rule out any means to secure the release of Israeli soldiers held captive by the PLO and is adopting measures on this issue which it would normally

reject, Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio. According to the radio, Shamir's remarks indirectly confirm that Israel is holding contacts with the PLO for the release of the captives.

PLO-Syrian Relations

Al-Wazir Speech -- Khalil al-Wazir, PLO deputy military commander, has ridiculed those who claim that there is a rift in PLO-Syrian relations and declared that Fatah is eager to rapidly strengthen relations with Syria on the basis of their many common interests, Radio Monte Carlo reported, citing a speech the PLO official made during an inspection tour of Palestinian positions in Lebanon. Al-Wazir revealed that contacts have recently taken place between Fatah and Syrian officials and that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will visit Damascus in the next few days to participate in further meetings. The PLO official reiterated that armed struggle will remain the Palestinians' major method of fighting for their objectives, but declared that Palestinian fighters stationed in Lebanon would not obstruct Lebanese independence and sovereignty, KUNA reported, citing the same speech.

Special Committee -- A special eight-man committee headed by Palestine National Council Speaker Khalid al-Fahum met recently to outline relations with Arab countries and to adopt "important" decisions, KUNA reported. The committee stressed the PLO's strategic relations with Syria and reiterated the need to bolster relations with that country, KUNA added. A committee member told KUNA that the group will soon hold its second meeting with Syrian officials.

Iran

In remarks made during a meeting in Tehran with Algerian Foreign Affairs Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani declared that Iran is "fully prepared for serious multifaceted cooperation" to stop Israel from using the Iran-Iraq war to gain concessions from Lebanon, Tehran radio reported. The speaker proposed a joint movement to confront American activities in the Middle East and urged Algeria to reactivate the steadfastness front for this purpose, the radio added. However, since Iraq has no inclination to fight Israel, Iran will "eliminate it" before joining the steadfastness struggle against imperialism, Hashemi-Rafsanjani added.

Although a Kuwaiti minister told KUNA that Algeria is optimistic about Ibrahimi's current attempt to mediate an end to the Gulf war, neither Tehran nor Algiers media have been observed to report on any mediation efforts.

Afghanistan

About 100 Afghan soldiers stationed near the Pakistani border mutinied on 31 December and shot some 30 Afghan officers, AFP reported, citing the account given by a dozen rebel soldiers who have arrived in Pakistan. According to another AFP report, the Afghan consul in New Delhi has disappeared.

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 002 *4 January 1983*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW 1

AFGHANISTAN

PDPA Message Marks 18th Founding Anniversary C 1
Defector on Soviet 'Plan' for Afghan Government [AFP] C 2
Resistance Sources Report Mutiny Near Khost [AFP] C 3
Disappearance of Consul in New Delhi Noted [AFP] C 4
Paper Excoriates Reagan as 'Enemy of People' [HAQIQAT-E SARBAZ] C 4
'Counterrevolutionary' Groups 'Crushed' C 4

INDIA

Observers Invited To Attend Nonaligned Summit E 1
Talks With Pakistan To Resume 17 January E 1
Gandhi Voices Concern Over Pakistani F-16's E 1
Gandhi Speaks on Ocean, Antarctic Exploration E 1
Trivandrum Situation Improves; Army Withdrawn E 2
Violence Reported in West, South Tripura E 2

PAKISTAN

Reportage on Iranian Interior Minister's Visit F 1
Reception Remarks [DAWN 28 Dec] F 1
Nateq-Nuri Press Conference F 1
IRNA Report F 2
Ziaul Haq Receives Al-Qadhdhafi Greetings [DAWN 29 Dec] F 2
Briefs: Minister's Death; Inflation Rate Decline F 2

IRAN

Algeria's Ibrahimi Arrives for Consultation I 1
Talks With Khamene'i I 1
Meets With Hashemi-Rafsanjani I 1
Departs 4 January I 3
Reportage on World Congress of Friday Imams I 3
Meshkini on Cooperation I 3
Call for World Majlis I 3
14-Point Resolution I 4
Montazeri on Superpowers I 5
Montazeri on War, Unity I 6
Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques I 7
Communique No 1,168 I 7
Communique No 1,169 I 8
Communique No 1,170 I 9
Communique No 1,171 I 9
Communique No 1,172 I 10
IRNA Reports on Recent Battle Successes I 11
40 Iraqis Killed I 11
Activities Halted I 11
Iraqi Aircraft Bombard Dehloran; 5 Killed I 11
Two Australians Declared Persona Non Grata I 11

PDPA MESSAGE MARKS 18TH FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

LD021046 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 1 Jan 83

[Text] Today, 1 January 1983, is the 18th founding anniversary of the PDPA -- vanguard of the working class and all toilers of the country.

The Party Central Committee has issued the following message on this occasion.

Comrades: The PDPA Central Committee marks the 18th founding anniversary of the party by offering congratulations to all heroic PDPA members struggling on all fronts for the right of our people to prosper. Our party, the PDPA, as the working class party, the honest continuer of the lofty traditions of the revolutionary struggle and freedom of our freedom-loving people, was founded 18 years ago under conditions of despotic reactionary domination. From that date until now, our party has traversed a difficult path in political, organizational, and ideological struggles. The true sons of the party, with unprecedented sacrifice, heroically have defended the interests of the people and the party and even have sacrificed themselves in this sacred path. The memory of these heroes will live forever with members of the party and all other heroes with revolutionary aspiration and will be a source of inspiration for the coming generations of our country for promoting the spirit of devotion and sacrifice for the defense of the interests of the working man.

Our party, relying on its true revolutionary elements and by accepting difficulties and pain, has achieved victory in the difficult stage of overcoming disunity in the party and once again has gained its unity.

Our party, along with all fraternal parties and international workers movements, continuously has defended the interests of toiling mankind and of peace and social progress in the international arena. As part of the great family of progressive parties of our era, it has performed its role honestly and with loyalty to the principles of internationalism.

Our party in the revolutionary movement of the country as a small but firm vanguard passed the storms of the struggle and, relying on the energy of our oppressed people, overthrew the rule of the exploiting class, took over political power for the [word indistinct] and realization of the aspirations of the toiling masses and started the national and democratic April Revolution.

Our party, in the early days of constructing power in the interests of the toilers of the country, faced treachery and deviation which placed the gains of revolution and even the existence of our country, the DRA, in serious danger. However, the revolutionary militants of the party, relying on the will of the toiling masses, with a practical view of the complex trend of the revolution in our country and with loyalty to the principles of [word indistinct] party, managed to save the revolution, people, and homeland and directed the revolution along its correct and proper path.

Comrades, today, more than 3 years since the beginning of the new stage of the revolution, our party has moved along a great path. In this period, revolutionary institutions in the country have expanded and strengthened the role of those fronts, and organizations that support and defend the revolution have increased. Our party has changed to a great national organization [word indistinct] that can lead society.

The unity of the party was maintained and significant qualitative and quantitative changes have occurred in its evolution. During this period, despite the undeclared war of imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism, we destroyed the centers of the counter-revolution and isolated them materially and spiritually from the masses.

However, in the meantime, we once again must stress the basic problem of party life, which is to further consolidate party unity and to enhance the role of party organizations and party members for the cause of expanding the revolutionary process in the country.

Comrades, in the year facing us, increase and expand your revolutionary struggle to completely eliminate the counterrevolution, to create a peaceful and safe atmosphere in the homeland, and to consolidate revolutionary power in the country. Convey the enlightened ideas of the party to each toiling compatriot and bravely defend the gains of the revolution.

DEFECTOR ON SOVIET 'PLAN' FOR AFGHAN GOVERNMENT

BK031410 Hong Kong AFP in English 1327 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, Jan. 3 (AFP) -- The Soviets plan to reorganize the Afghan Government along the lines of the Soviet Moslem republics in Central Asia, an Afghan military defector said here today.

Colonel Mohammad Ayub Osmani, 37, said a Soviet military advisor revealed a plan last March to restructure the Kabul government after the Soviet republics of Turkmenistan, Tadzhikistan and Uzbekistan. Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan were organized as autonomous Soviet Socialist Republics after the Bolshevik revolution and were annexed to the Soviet Union in May 1925. Tadzhikistan joined the Soviet Union in December 1929.

Col. Osmani, who claimed not to be a member of the Afghan communist party, said he publically criticised the plan and said it would be more rational to remodel the government along the lines of an independent country, such as the national Soviet government.

Col. Osmani, who headed the sports division of the Afghan Defense Ministry for nearly three years, said Afghan Defense Minister Abdol Qader rebuked him for his comment, making him fear for his life and prompting him to flee the country with his wife and three daughters at an opportune moment.

The defector added that Soviet military advisors are in total control of the Afghan Defense Ministry and delegate no authority to Afghan subordinates.

All Defense Ministry orders must be signed by at least two Soviet officers to make them valid, while Soviet military show general contempt for their Afghan counterparts.

Soviet soldiers never salute Afghan officers other than the defense minister, and, with one exception, all Afghan generals are systematically searched when entering and leaving the ministry, which is guarded by Soviet troops. Only officers who are party members are allowed to own pistols and Kalashnikov rifles for self-defense, but most lower-ranking officers refuse to become party members.

Those who do join the Afghan communist party generally side with the Khalq faction, which is opposed to President Babrak Karmal's Parcham faction, Col. Osmani said.

Afghan resistance forces have infiltrated the Defense Ministry and found collaborators among older officers who served under the former regime, while younger Afghan officers recruit informers for the rebels, the defector said.

Col. Osmani said Soviet Marshal Sergey Sokolov, the first defense vice-minister since 1967 and a member of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, spends three months in Afghanistan annually, supervising the 2,500 Soviet soldiers and 3,500 Afghan officers in the Afghan Defense Ministry.

During Marshal Sokolov's absence from Kabul, General Krichmanov takes command of the ministry which is equipped with modern communication facilities including numerous direct telephone lines to Moscow, the defector said.

Col. Osmani said contacts between Afghan and Soviet soldiers were minimal. Afghan and Soviet employees ate in separate ministry restaurants until last April. In March, a plot to poison Soviet military men by the Afghan cook and his assistants was discovered, and now the Soviets take their meals at home.

The defector, who learned Russian while being trained at the Soviet tank school in Moscow, said many Soviet officers told him that they did not understand why they were in Afghanistan.

A Commander Shubavoy, who was in charge of communications at the military club, broke into tears one day when he saw a truckload of Soviet corpses pass by, and said his superiors had lied to him by claiming that Soviet troops were sent to Afghanistan to fight Americans and Chinese, Col. Osmani related.

Col. Osmani said hashish was "very widespread" among Soviet officers and men in Kabul and that drug transactions were carried out in the halls of the Defense Ministry.

Resistance forces encourage drug consumption by addressing packages of it to Soviet officers in the ministry.

All Afghan officers have been promoted since the Soviet invasion in December 1979 to compensate for the forced retirement of former officers considered too close to former leaders.

Defense Minister Abdol Qader recently took up residence in a luxurious Kabul neighborhood and travels only between his home and the ministry under a four jeep escort, Col. Osmani said.

The defector added that 15 Afghan officers are allowed the use of Mercedes Benz cars, while Soviet officers have requisitioned more than 50 others that used to belong to the government of former King Zaher Shah.

RESISTANCE SOURCES REPORT MUTINY NEAR KHOST

BK031650 Hong Kong AFP in English 1634 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Islamabad, Jan. 3 (AFP) -- About 100 Afghan soldiers mutinied Friday night at their outpost near Khost, close to the Pakistani border, gunning down some 30 Afghan officers and setting fire to the ammunitions depot, resistance sources here said today.

The mutiny was reported by a dozen rebel soldiers who arrived today at the Pakistani border town of Miram Sham. They said the soldiers at Nadershah-Kot, one of the outposts defending Khost, in the eastern province of Paktia, sought refuge in a village near Afghan rebel positions in the mountains overlooking the Khost plain. The outposts in that area, where 1,000 Afghan soldiers and 100 to 200 Soviets are stationed, are manned only by Afghan detachments.

These posts have been under pressure for several months from resistance fighters who, like other mujahedeen, have been making increasing use of loudspeakers to incite soldiers to desert or rise against their officers.

DISAPPEARANCE OF CONSUL IN NEW DELHI NOTED

BK040526 Hong Kong AFP in English 0509 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] New Delhi, Jan. 4 (AFP) -- The Afghan consul in New Delhi, M.A. Nazir Nadjaf, has disappeared, Afghan sources here said today. There was no trace of him at his home in New Delhi's greater Kailash district and his car was gone. Mr. Nazir was previously ambassador in Paris.

The source also reported that two unnamed embassy radio operators, members of the "KHAD" secret police, summoned back to Kabul, have decided not to return and have sought asylum in a third country.

PAPER EXCORIATES REAGAN AS 'ENEMY OF PEOPLE'

LD301340 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto and Dari 0235 GMT 30 Dec 82

[From the press review]

[Text] HAQIQAT-E SARBAZ, central organ of the DRA Ministry of National Defense, yesterday printed the text of Karmal's press conference in Moscow. Among other topics was "Reagan Is the Enemy of the Afghan People," which reads in part:

Reagan, this bloodsucker of history, again shamelessly supports thieves, ruffians, robbers, and traitors to the revolution and people. Clearly, without respecting the Presidency of the United States, like a gangster, he declared a duel and (?sides) with looters, plunderers, thieves, and professional murderers. He imagines himself, so to speak, as being attacked (?in a movie) in which he plays the role of the gangsters of history. Mr Reagan, it is enough that the people of Afghanistan now have recognized your face and that or your collaborators. The people of Afghanistan are in their own country and see everything with their own eyes (?and not) from a grand dark palace! Our people feel with their skin and blood the crimes of you and your collaborators.

Your crocodile tears no longer provoke the anger of our toiling people. You and your hangmen, your crimes and deception, and your deceptive statements can no longer mislead our persecuted and oppressed people.

'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY' GROUPS 'CRUSHED'

LD011700 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 1 Jan 83

[Text] Security forces and party activists of Nangarhar Province recently have crushed a number of counterrevolutionary elements in the (Srarud) District, who were causing suffering to the people.

According to the report of the security forces, 3 mortars, 12 other weapons, 5 rocket launchers, 2 crates of antitank (?ammunition) and 8 antitank mines have been captured from these murders; 1 heavy machinegun was destroyed.

According to another report from Qonduz Province, another group of plunderers and murderers has been crushed in Dasht-e Archi District. Security forces captured 33, with 38 weapons.

The authorities in Lowgar Province have crushed another group of saboteurs in Sorkh AB (?region) Qal'eh-ye Saber District, and captured a large amount of ammunition, weapons, and five horses.

OBSERVERS INVITED TO ATTEND NONALIGNED SUMMIT

BK040851 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Eleven countries and eight international organizations have been invited to attend the seventh nonaligned summit in New Delhi as observers. External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao has sent letters in this regard to the heads of these countries and organizations.

According to a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry, the observers will be permitted to take part in the proceedings to the summit and attend the committee meetings, which will discuss political and economic matters.

TALKS WITH PAKISTAN TO RESUME 17 JANUARY

BK011407 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 1 Jan 83

[Text] Talks between India and Pakistan on the proposal for a nonaggression pact and for a treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation are being resumed in Islamabad on the 17th of this month. The Indian side will be led by Natwar Singh, secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, while the Pakistan delegation will be headed by Foreign Secretary Niaz Naik.

The talks will also cover matters relating to the functioning of the joint commission set up a few days ago when delegations from the two countries met in New Delhi.

Natwar Singh will also discuss with Niaz Naik the draft documents being prepared for the coming nonaligned summit in New Delhi.

GANDHI VOICES CONCERN OVER PAKISTANI F-16'S

BK011409 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 1 Jan 83

[Text] The prime minister says with the acquisition of F-16 fighter aircraft by Pakistan, vast areas in India are now within the range of their attack. Expressing concern over the deal under which the United States is supplying the planes to Islamabad, Mrs Gandhi said the military package also threatens to drag Pakistan into the area of big power conflict and rivalry.

She made these observations in a recent written interview to a newspaper of the Indiana University in the United States. The prime minister said India seeks a relationship of good will with Pakistan and wants it to be stable. We want Pakistan to be at peace with itself and with its neighbors, she added.

GANDHI SPEAKS ON OCEAN, ANTARCTIC EXPLORATION

BK031307 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Excerpt] The 70th session of the Indian Science Congress opened in Templetown of Tirupati today with a call by the prime minister to adopt modern technology to achieve self-reliance in the strategic areas of development.

Mrs Gandhi told scientists from home and abroad attending the conference that technology must be effectively used to fulfill the aspirations and needs of the people. She said the objective of the new technology should be to provide maximum gainful jobs to all strata of society. The prime minister said India believes in a technical growth that is based on its own culture and personality.

Speaking on the focal scene of the conference on ocean development, Mrs Gandhi declared that Antarctica should be treated as the common heritage of mankind. She denounced the stand of the few countries refusing to recognize Antarctica and the ocean as belonging to the entire world.

Referring to India's efforts at using ocean resources, Mrs Gandhi said our country has now been recognized as a pioneer in ocean mining. It has now the exploring right to operate an area of nearly 150,000 square km in the high seas.

Mrs. Gandhi said incursions by outside powers in the Indian Ocean area have opened the eyes of the nations in the neighborhood to the need to adopt necessary strategies. She said the adoption by a majority of nations of the Convention of the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea is a major development. She expressed the hope that other countries who have not signed the convention will reconsider the stand.

The prime minister said the two daring Indian expeditions to Antarctica have shown to the world what India is capable of.

Mrs Gandhi also referred to India's space research program and said that Insat 1A has demonstrated our capability as well as limitations. She wished the scientists all success for the Insat 1B program.

TRIVANDRUM SITUATION IMPROVES; ARMY WITHDRAWN

BK0209?3 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Jan 83

[Text] The Army has been withdrawn from Trivandrum. Troops were called out to help the civil authorities following the disturbances last Thursday in the city.

Kerala Home Minister Vayalar Ravi told All India Radio Trivandrum correspondent that there is an overall improvement in the situation and there is no further need for the Army. He said more border security forces and central reserve police force personnel have also arrived in the city.

Our correspondent reports that complete normalcy prevails in the city. According to official sources, tension has come down considerably in the affected areas.

VIOLENCE REPORTED IN WEST, SOUTH TRIPURA

BK310929 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 31 Dec 82

[Text] In Bishalgarh town in west Tripura, one person was stabbed to death following a clash between supporters of two rival political parties. According to the additional inspector general of police, the victim was a police personnel. Agency reports say that after the incident some houses were set on fire. Four persons have been arrested.

In another incident, three extremists opened fire on a central reserve police force patrol party at (Nutan Bazari) in south Tripura yesterday.

REPORTAGE ON IRANIAN INTERIOR MINISTER'S VISIT

Reception Remarks

GF310917 Karachi DAWN in English 28 Dec 82 p 12

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 27 -- Mr Mahmoud A Haroon, federal minister of the interior, said the relations between two neighbouring and brotherly countries of Pakistan and Iran will grow from strength to strength in the times to come.

He was speaking at a reception given in honour of the visiting Iranian Minister for the Interior Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri by Iranian Ambassador Abu Sharif Zamani here last night. The reception was attended, among others, by Fakr Imam, minister for local government and rural development, Mr Ghulam Dastgir Khan, minister for labour and manpower, and ambassadors of Muslim countries.

The minister said both countries are closely linked to each other with the bonds of Islamic brotherhood and are engaged in realizing their common objectives of Islamic renaissance and its prestine glory. He said Pakistan is playing its due role in the unity of ummah and assured that it will contribute maximum efforts to achieve respect and dignity of the Muslims in the world and overcoming their problems.

Mr Mahmoud A Haroon said the government of Pakistan is working for the establishment of nizam-i-mustafa in the country. He said they believe that the present day problems are due to their deviation from the path of God. The present government is committed to bring about Islamic order in the society, he added.

The Iranian interior minister in his address hoped that his visit will further promote relations between the two countries. He said he had a very fruitful discussion in Islamabad with his counterpart of some common problems.

He said although Iran itself is confronted with its own internal and external problems, it will continue to strive for the common good of the ummah. He said the Muslim countries are rich in resources and they should not depend upon others. The minister said that the Iranian revolution has brought about a complete change in their life in accordance with the teachings of Islam. They are only guided by Allah in their day to day affairs, he said.

Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri has extended an invitation to Mr Mahmoud A. Haroon visit Iran.

Talking to the APP Mr Haroon said that he has accepted the invitation and will visit Iran at an appropriate time.

In reply to a question, he said that there exists a treaty between Pakistan and Iran which was being implemented by the two countries. He said that a ministerial commission already exists to review bilateral relations between the two countries.

Nateq-Nuri Press Conference

BK291634 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Dec 82

[Text] Iranian Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri again has referred to his country's three-point formula to settle the Afghan crisis. He said foreign troops should withdraw unconditionally from Afghanistan; Afghan refugees should be allowed to go back to their homeland and they should be given the opportunity to handle their own affairs. He was addressing a press conference in Lahore this evening.

IRNA Report

LD301128 Tehran IRNA in English 0934 GMT 30 Dec 82

[Text] Islamabad, Dec. 30, IRNA -- Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri Wednesday categorically denied reports on his meeting with the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organisation (ICO), Habib Chatti, stressing that he was not going to do so in future.

Nuri, speaking at a press conference in Lahore, said that some of the Pakistani dailies had shrewdly distorted the news while using a fabricated picture indicating his meeting with Chatti and President Zia.

Referring to the issue of Iraqi imposed war on Iran, the Iranian minister who is currently visiting Pakistan, said that signs were indicating the end of the war with outstanding victories by the Islamic combatants in the fronts.

He noted that superpowers were not scared of a hallow Islam but rather of a genuine one adding that there were countries which were apparently Islamic but were still under the domination of the big powers.

Later the same day Nateq-Nuri met and conferred with the head of the Jama'at-i-Islami, Mian Tofail Mohammad, in Lahore and discussed with him Muslims' unity, stance of the Islamic Republic vis-a-vis the Iraqi imposed war, and Afghan occupation by Soviet forces.

Mian Tofail Mohammad called on countries rendering assistance to Saddam to stop their support for him and put an end to the attempts which would only fan the flames of war in the region.

Nateq-Nuri said that the same stance the Islamic Republic had taken vis-a-vis the Iraqi imposed war, was taken against Soviet occupation of Afghanistan stressing that the occupant forces should evacuate there as soon as possible.

ZIAUL HAQ RECEIVES AL-QADHDHAFI GREETINGS

GF310758 Karachi DAWN in English 29 Dec 82

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 28 -- The Libyan president, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, has sent a message of greetings to President Mohammad Ziaul Haq on the occasion of 'Id-i-Milad-un-Nabi. In his message, the Libyan president has conveyed warm greetings and good wishes to the president and the brotherly people of Pakistan.

BRIEFS

MINISTER'S DEATH -- Major General Jamaldar, Minister for northern areas and Kashmir affairs, died this afternoon of a heart attack. He was 74. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 25 Dec 82 BK]

INFLATION RATE DECLINE -- State Bank Governor A.G.M. Qazi has said the industrial production in the past 5 months of the current fiscal year has been satisfactory, rate of inflation declined, and bank deposits and home remittances showed a notable rise. He said the rate of monetary expansion declined from 18.5 percent in 1979-80 to 10.5 percent in 1981-82. So far this fiscal year, the monetary expansion has been 6.7 percent. The bank deposits during the period recored a sharp rise of 9.5 billion as against the rise of less than 1 billion rupees in the same period. Remittances also showed a notable rise of 32 percent. [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 30 Dec 82 BK]

ALGERIA'S IBRAHIMI ARRIVES FOR CONSULTATION

LD021022 Tehran IRNA in English 0911 GMT 2 Jan 83

[Text] Tehran, Jan 2, (IRNA) -- Our visit to Iran is carried out in the framework of the consulting policy between the two countries, announced Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, the Algerian foreign minister, upon arrival in Tehran.

He said that policy of consultation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Algeria was effective since the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Speaking on topics to be discussed with his Iranian counterpart Velayati, Ibrahimi said, God willing, bilateral ties, international situation in Africa and Asia, the Arabic world, and the Nonaligned Movement, along with all subjects of interest between the two countries will be discussed.

He then expressed his nation's and leaders warmest regards for the Iranian nation and the Iranian leaders.

In conclusion Ibrahimi said what made the Algerian delegation most joyous, was the coincidence of their trip to the Islamic Republic of Iran with the birthday of the prophet of Islam (SAW).

Talks With Khamene'i

LD031136 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Excerpt] According to our correspondent, Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Algerian foreign affairs minister, who is in Tehran at the head of a delegation for talks with officials of our country on expansion of bilateral political, economic, and trade relations, met and conferred this morning with President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i.

The meeting also was attended by 'Ali Akbar Velayati, minister of foreign affairs; the Algerian Foreign Ministry director of international affairs; the Algerian ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran; Iran's ambassador to Algeria; and a presidential adviser.

During this meeting, the Algerian foreign minister conveyed a verbal message from the Algerian president to our country's president.

Khamene'i expressed the hope that bilateral economic, political, and trade relations will expand. Commenting on the importance of current international affairs and the Middle East, he said: We attach importance to the nonaligned conference and believe that countries with common and long-term aims and policies must cooperate fully. In other words, from our point of view, the nonaligned conference and the movement itself must always remain nonaligned.

Commenting on the danger of America's and Israel's influence in the region, Khamene'i stressed the need for a true, political alliance among the region's progressive governments in countering U.S. and Israeli pressures. He said: Such an alliance will prevent the United States and Israel from diverting the region's progressive governments from the policies and the courses they are pursuing. We believe the progressive countries must take basic steps to create a barrier against U.S. penetration.

Meets With Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD031845 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, who has come to our country at the head of a delegation, this afternoon met with Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

According to our correspondent, Foreign Minister Velayati, the Iranian ambassador to Algeria, and the Algerian ambassadors to Iran also attended the meeting during which the Algerian foreign minister delivered a speech. He said: The basis and foundation of Algerian society are Islam; the Algerian nation will accept only Islam. Despite the conspiracies of imperialism, especially the criminal America, our nation strives for reconstruction.

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly then delivered a speech. Emphasizing the great power of Islam, he said: The power of the revolution and of Islam is immense. When these two forces are combined, great results can be achieved. Officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran are fully prepared to make use of the prestige and experience of the Islamic revolution and the material means at our disposal to launch a powerful movement to restore Islamic greatness.

Referring to the weak position of the Arab world on sensitive world issues, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Now that the Islamic Republic of Iran has delivered a deadly blow to American imperialism in the region, it is an injustice toward the Muslims if the Arab world shows weakness toward American imperialism. We are in a position to gain favors from America, not to do favors for America and Israel. We ask why the Islamic and Arab world so easily tolerated the crimes and shameful deeds of Israel in Lebanon. We cannot be indifferent toward or remain silent about the discussions that are aimed at dragging Lebanon behind Egypt. We openly announce that we are fully prepared for serious multifaceted cooperation aimed at stopping Israel from gaining concessions at this point by making use of the war between Iraq and Iran.

Addressing the Algerian minister of foreign affairs, Hashemi-Rafsanjani emphasized: Although we are subjected to the aggression of the subservient Saddam and the major part of our forces are engaged in the war, we nevertheless believe we should not give America any chance for action. America thinks that by imposing the war on the Islamic Republic of Iran it will prevent our Muslim fighters from defending their Palestinian brothers.

I now most emphatically propose that we start a joint movement to confront the American offensive in the region and to prevent a new catastrophe. In this connection, Algeria should activate the steadfastness front. We also will help as much as possible so that we don't allow the Palestinians to be forced toward compromise or the Arab world to follow Saudi Arabia, about whose agentry there is no doubt.

In another part of his speech, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly emphasized that Islam should be regarded as a pivot for all activities. He said: By making Islam a pivot and through the direct support and assistance of the people we will be able to achieve the power necessary to solve the Middle East problem. The Ba'thist Party in Iraq certainly has no inclination to fight against Israel and we will eliminate it. We then will stand next to you to rid the Islamic and Arab world of the evil of imperialism.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the position of the Saudi Kingdom in OPEC. It is asking that Saudi Arabia -- with a population of 7 million -- produce 8 million barrels of oil, while Iran -- with a population of 40 million -- produces 1 million barrels. He said: Why does Algeria remain silent while Saudi Arabia takes such a position? Saudi Arabia doesn't know what to do with all its money. Therefore, it is only making this demand to weaken OPEC.

At the end of this meeting, Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi expressed gratitude for the sincere cooperation of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the Algerian team investigating the tragic crash of the Algerian aircraft, which led to the martyrdom of former Algerian Foreign Minister Ben Yahia. He emphasized that Iran is the only country that had provided the investigation team with all the facilities and explicit answers to its questions. He also expressed his hope that in the near future the results of the investigation will be brought to the notice of the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Departs 4 January

LD041114 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Our correspondent reports that Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Algerian foreign affairs minister, who arrived in Tehran last Sunday, left this morning. During his 3-day visit to Tehran, the Algerian foreign affairs minister met with the president, the speaker of the Islamic Majlis, the prime minister, and our country's minister of foreign affairs.

REPORTAGE ON WORLD CONGRESS OF FRIDAY IMAMS

Meshkini on Cooperation

LD012246 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Jan 83

[Excerpts] The second meeting of the world congress of Friday imams and prayer leaders was held this morning. Scholars, holy men, members of the Majlis, Cabinet ministers, government officials, and Friday imams and prayer leaders from 40 countries took part in the meeting.

According to a Central News Unit report, Ayatollah Meshkini, Friday imam of Qom, congratulated the congress on the occasion of the anniversary of the birth of Prophet Mohammad. He then noted the importance of the Islamic unity within the Islamic world to confront oppression and satan. He suggested that the administration of the two holy shrines in Mecca and Medina be entrusted to two groups which would represent all Islamic countries. The first group would be responsible for legislation and act as a board of directors. The second group would act as an executive board. This way, the hands of America and Israel will be totally cut off from the two holy shrines and from interfering in the affairs of the pilgrims.

Ayatollah Meshkini also proposed the following to the congress: Refrain from holding numerous and sporadic Friday prayers, instead, hold one Friday prayers in each town. Raise social and political issues during the Friday prayers held in Islamic lands. Hold an annual congress of Friday prayers and prayer leaders, with the participation of all Islamic countries, on a rotational basis in different countries in order to exchange views, reach understanding, and analyze Islamic tasks. Establish an international interest-free Islamic bank in one of the Islamic countries. Set up an academy and an assembly to do research on Islamic sciences and humanity, particularly Islamic economic issues and Islamic politics.

Call for World Majlis

GF011742 Tehran IRNA in English 1642 GMT 1 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Tehran, Jan. 1, IRNA -- In the closing day of the global congress of the prayer leaders here, Friday prayer leader of the holy city of Qom, Ayatollah 'Ali Meshkini, suggested formation of an Islamic Majlis (assembly) of the world.

Addressing some 130 guests from forty countries, Ayatollah Meshkini said that such Majlis would be beneficial for creation of a unified Islamic world and would create conditions under which constitutional laws of Islamic countries would be evaluated and formulated on the basis of teachings of Koran.

In the continuation of his speech the Qom Friday prayer leader said that by formation of the Majlis, one billion Muslims of the world who are gathered under the banner of there is no God but Allah and Mohammad (S.A.W.) [sallalaho alaihey wa sallam -- peace be upon him] is the messenger of God and thereby a great power would be created. By taking into account the natural resources, rich Islamic culture of the Muslim countries, one could realise the dimensions of such a power, he added.

14-Point Resolution

LD021934 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Jan 83

[Excerpts] The world congress of Friday imams, held on the occasion of unity week at Azadi Hotel in Tehran, which was attended by Friday imams from 40 countries all over the world, ended this afternoon after issuing a 14-point resolution. It was attended by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani and a number of Iranian officials.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani gave a speech and explained the trend of the Islamic revolution, its struggle against world blasphemy, the matter in which the creative forces of the revolution are being utilized, and the starting up of the country's economic and industrial projects. He said: We were able to oust the usurper Zionist regime in spite of its large investments in our country and the first Palestinian embassy in the world took its place. We also utilized our pious military forces alongside our Muslim Syrian and Palestinian brothers to fight against Israel's aggression against Lebanon. Although Israel has owed our country $600 million since before the revolution, we have completely severed our relations with it. God willing, at the end of the war, we will collect all that is owed to us, even if we have to extract it from Tel Aviv.

The 14-point resolution of the first worldwide congress of Friday imams, which was signed by all the Friday imams, was then read in Arabic by Seyyed Hadi Khamene'i, a Majlis deputy:

1. In their sermons, Friday imams should relate regional and international news and issues which are in the interests of Islam's sublime aims and against world blasphemy. We declare our total support for such Friday imams.

2. We stress the necessity for Friday imams and Islamic clergymen to participate in a worldwide organization and for them to gather at certain times in Iran. Therefore, it is necessary for this worldwide organization to establish its permanent secretariat in Tehran and branches in other Islamic countries.

3. In Friday prayer sermons, the danger of world blasphemy and Zionism must be pointed out so that Muslims will become aware of their grave duty to defend the Islamic nation and to repel aggression against Islamic lands, especially Palestine, Lebanon, and Afghanistan.

4. The contents of the sermons should first stress the coordination and indivisibility of religion and politics and clearly prove them. Second, they should make the people aware of the active role played by religion in all aspects of life. Third, they should prepare the ground for the creation of Islamic governments in all countries under the precise and active supervision and leadership of committed clergymen and Islamic experts. Fourth, they should be rich in content with the view of informing the people, uniting them, raising their morale, and encouraging them to take part in political and social activities.

5. The sermons should explain all aspects of the policy of neither East nor West to the people.

6. By continuously stressing Islamic unity, Friday imams should expose and foil traitorous and divisive plots hatched in the guise of religious and national differences.

7. Mosques should regain their main role as the stronghold from which the all-round struggle against all evil will be waged. As it had been in the time of his excellency the prophet of God, they should be turned into prayer, political, cultural, and military bases.

8. Islamic clergymen should first be independent, as much as possible, from the organizational and financial viewpoint. They should regain their identity in continuing the mission of the prophets to awaken the people, showing them their friends and enemies and how to fight against the satans of the ages. They should make plans for this holy task.

9. As the esteemed jurist and the honorable crusader His Excellency Ayatollah Montazeri has stressed, the two holy shrines and Jerusalem belong to all Muslims. Their management should be assigned to a committee comprised of religious representatives from various Islamic countries.

10. The date in all Islamic countries should be based on Hegira.

11. As the language of the Koran, Arabic should be the international language of the Muslims.

12. Friday should be the official holiday in the entire Islamic world.

13. The worldwide congress of Friday imams should be held every year in Iran, the base for support of Muslims and the oppressed. The week in which it is held should be known as the week of Friday and congregation.

14. Following the imam of the nation, His Excellency Imam Khomeyni, we stress the importance of holding the international Jerusalem Day on the last Friday of Ramadan.

Montazeri on Superpowers

LD031248 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Foreign guests attending the world congress of Friday imams and prayer leaders, accompanied by a great many Friday imams from our own country, were received this morning by the Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom.

Addressing the foreign guests, the Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, said: The colonialists constantly are attempting to instill in the minds of the peoples of Islamic countries that religion and politics are two different things, whereas, in fact, politics is identical to religion. Indeed, one can claim that religion as a whole is only politics.

The Grand Ayatollah Montazeri added: The convening of these congresses and seminars is a step toward organizing clergymen throughout the Islamic world, a step that must be taken. Under the circumstances in which the superpowers are closing their ranks, with their leaders making plans to meet, the Islamic world's subjects, enjoying immense power, must organize and prepare themselves to confront their Western and Eastern enemies.

According to a report, the participating guests at the world congress of Friday imams and prayer leaders, while paying homage to the holy shrine of Ma'sumah, were warmly welcomed by a number of theological students and the Muslim inhabitants of Qom, who were shouting slogans: "O Muslims, unite, unite: Neither East nor West, but the Islamic Republic! O Islamic scholars, welcome to Iran! Death to Israel, death to America, death to the USSR!"

Montazeri on War, Unity

LD032102 Tehran IRNA in English 1955 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Qom, Jan 3, IRNA -- Prominent Islamic scholar Ayatollah Montazeri said today, "If Saddam and the Ba'thist regime would leave the Iraqi Muslim nation alone and allow them the freedom to choose their (preferred) Islamic government, we not only would not want war reparations but also would help them, since, we just think about Islam and nothing else."

Speaking to participants of the world congress of Friday prayers held in Tehran, the ayatollah added that reactionary leaders speak about a hollow Islam in which the Muslims have no say so in determining their destinies.

In another part of his speech, the prominent ayatollah referred to the brutal crimes of Saddam's regime against the southern and western residential areas of the country, adding that "after committing all these crimes along with the aggressors' continued occupation of our country, he (Saddam) deceitfully talks about peace and expects us to ignore all his crimes and thank him instead." Saddam must know, said Ayatollah Montazeri, that no law-biding people in the world would forgive his shameful acts.

The ayatollah then asked who had given to persons such as Andropov and Reagan the right to determine the destiny of one billion Muslims. He stated that "we stretch our hands towards you, the ulema and leaders of Friday prayers in Islamic countries, to convey the voice of the oppressed Muslim nation of Iran to Muslims in other countries."

The prominent theologian further said that the ulema and theologians in Islamic countries had been delegated a heavy responsibility following the victory of the Islamic Republic and that no pretext was acceptable in carrying out this duty.

Stressing the necessity of preservation of unity among Muslims of the world the prominent theologian said that while the two superpowers of the West and East, which were two opposite poles, were in agreement against Islam, then why should there be disputes among Muslims who have accepted the holy Koran, Prophet Mohammad (SAW), prayers, fasting and hajj (pilgrimage).

"Islam is a great power and the Muslim ulema should be independent, defend Islam and endeavour to revive the power Islam had at the beginning, through Islamic unity and serving Muslims."

It is a pity that one billion Muslims of the world are subjected either directly or indirectly to humiliation by 3 million Zionists and fail to liberate Quds, he said.

Praying for the victory of Islamic combatants over all world oppressors, Ayatollah Montazeri called upon the leaders of prayers to endeavour further to bring about unity of Islamic thought through the holding of more Islamic symposiums.

He emphasised the interrelation of religion with politics, adding that the latter connotated nowadays treachery, deceit, cunning, hypocrisy, and evilness. He said that when a nation believes in a special ideology or school of thought, their affairs should be administered in accordance with it.

Speaking about the role of velyat-e faqih (office of Islamic jurisprudence), he said that since it constituted the foundation of an Islamic government, its head should be a just person aware of Islam and expert in Islamic affairs, appropriately called the just Islamic guardian.

Ayatollah Montazeri then proposed that the Sunni theologians study the religious books and narrations of Shia Muslims as the latter do to further accquaint with the culture of various sects of Islam and thus stop the disputations created by our enemies' propaganda against Islam, thus thwarting their conspiracies.

He continued that all our [word indistinct] was caused by the reactionary leaders of governments who claimed to be Islamic but instead of supporting the Islamic Republic, [word indistinct] with superpowers and connived in plots against it.

In his speech, Ayatollah Montazeri thanked the leaders of prayers who had come to Iran and congratulated them on the birth anniversary of Prophet Mohammad (SAW) and Imam [name indistinct].

The Ayatollah also praised the organising officials for planning the itinery of the congress and hoped that strong relations would be related among the leaders of prayers of all Islamic countries.

During the meeting, Hojat ol-Eslam Hadi Khamene'i in charge of organising the global congress of Friday and congregational prayer leaders gave a report on the results of the six-day congress to Ayatollah Montazeri. The congress started on Dec 28 ended its work Sunday 2 Jan with a 13-point resolution. [as received]

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 1,168

LD301730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Dec 82

[Communique No 1,168 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Operations by the selfless combatants of Islam continued during the past 24 hours in the form of fire mounted on enemy positions, personnel, and armored equipment. On each front and in all operational zones, blows were inflicted on the Saddamist troops.

On the border fronts of Ilam, Qasr-e Shirin, and Bakhtaran, exchanges of fire took place, being intense in Meymak. As a result of our forces' artillery fire, a number of enemy tank positions and bunkers along with their occupants in the above-mentioned sectors were destroyed.

In the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operational zone, our combatant units, by dispatching patrol groups on ambush operations, and while continuing their own operations, defended their relevant positions.

During exchanges of fire in the Marivan region, the forces of Islam answered enemy fire by firing on mercenaries positions in the (Biyareh) region, which halted all traffic.

On the southern fronts and in the Moharram operational zone, our forces, while consolidating their positions, maintained their initiative by bringing enemy defensive lines under fire. In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational region, our units' fire destroyed five enemy bunkers, two observation posts, and Iraqi military vehicles. A number of enemy soldiers were killed or injured.

Yesterday, the enemy brought Abadan residential sectors under its heavy weapons fire, as a result of which, three of our compatriots were injured, part of an elementary school was destroyed, and some buildings were set on fire.

Enemy air attacks in the past 24 hours on border cities and on operational zones were met by fire from our air defense units and the invading aircraft were driven off.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,169

LD311718 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Dec 82

[Communique No 1,169 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. In the aftermath of an offensive launched by the deceived Saddamist mercenaries on one of the southern fronts, the mighty combatants of Islam, as powerful as ever and enjoying the upper hand, halted the Saddamist forces' offensive and advance. At 1400 yesterday, our triumphant combatants, inflicting heavy losses and casualties on the aggressor Saddamist troops, forced them to retreat to their defensive positions.

On the Abadan front, the combatants of Islam returned enemy fire across the Arvand Rud and inflicted the following losses on enemy forces: destruction of two 50-calibre heavy machineguns and one missile launcher position, destruction of one observation post and one recoilless gun, setting an ammunition dump on fire, and killing or injuring a number of Iraqi troops.

As a result of the criminal Saddamists' fire, three houses were destroyed yesterday in Abadan.

On the Marivan front, the army's heavy artillery fire halted all Saddamist forces' movement and activity in the [name indistinct] sector and inflicted losses and casualties on them. In the past few days, an Islamic combatant patrol infiltrated the Iraqi forces' defensive positions and succeeded in destroying a considerable number of enemy observation bunkers and one mortar. During this operation, a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or injured.

In the past 24 hours, as a result of operational tactics carried out by the selfless combatants of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, encroaching Iraqi aircraft were given no chance to trespass.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,170

LD011738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Jan 83

[Communique No 1,170 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. While expressing our congratulations on the occasion of the birthday of seal of prophets, His Eminence Mohammad Mustafa, peace be upon him and his virtuous family, and the birthday of His Eminence Imam Ja'afar Sadeq, peace be upon him, the public hereby is informed of a report concerning operations at the fronts of the war between right and wrong in the past 24 hours.

On the southern fronts and the Moharram operational zone, our valiant combatants yesterday continued with their effective defense of their defensive positions and regions. Through heavy fire, they had enemy elements under pressure and control and disrupted enemy engineering units' operations.

Sporadic exchanges of fire took place in the Khorramshahr and Abadan regions and while halting enemy fire the forces of Islam succeeded in destroying four Iraqi foxholes and bunkers, several observation posts, and heavy and light weapons trenches.

Parts of Abadan's civilian sectors came under enemy heavy weapons fire yesterday, resulting in financial damage.

On the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operational zone and the western fronts yesterday, artillery and mortar fire was exchanged. As a result of the Islam combatants' fire, a number of Iraqi troops along those fronts were killed or injured. An enemy vehicle park was set on fire by our forces and several enemy vehicles were destroyed.

On the Marivan front, enemy traffic was halted as a result of our forces' fire on enemy positions in the vicinity of Panjwin. In the Hargineh region, several bunkers and their occupants were destroyed.

Enemy air aggressions in the past 24 hours on the southern and western regions were repulsed by our air defense units' fire and our fighter aircraft tactical operations. Enemy invading aircraft were driven out of the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Communique No 1,171

LD021724 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Jan 83

[Communique No 1,171 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In its 1,171st communique, the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced the situation at the fronts of the imposed war and the results of battles carried out by the combatants of Islam in the past 24 hours:

Battles on the western fronts: From Qasr-e Shirin to the border fronts of Ilam, artillery and other heavy weapons fire exchanges continued between Islam's victorious combatants and the Saddamist aggressor mercenaries. On each front, the valiant defenders of our Islamic homeland, while defending their own positions and regions, controlled Saddamist troop activities and operations.

With their effective and timely fire, they inflicted losses and casualties on the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenary troops and halted enemy fire.

On the Marivan front, the army combatants, using artillery fire against enemy units and positions in the (Bala) [word indistinct] and other regions, halted enemy artillery and heavy weapons fire and inflicted losses and casualties on the enemy.

Sporadic exchanges of fire continued on most of the southern fronts in the past 24 hours. The triumphant combatants of Islam on each front, while answering enemy fire, halted enemy fire and the Saddamist mercenaries' activities. Effective blows were dealt them. On those fronts, the combatants of Islam continued to defend their protective positions and are taking effective steps to consolidate those positions.

In exchanges of fire on the Abadan front, the combatants of Islam succeeded in killing or injuring a number of enemy troops. They also destroyed six enemy foxholes and bunkers and two observation posts.

The cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr yesterday came under the Saddamist mercenaries' artillery fire, resulting in the destruction of four houses in Abadan.

The defenders of our Islamic homeland's airspace yesterday blocked the Saddamist mercenaries' attempts to violate our airspace.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,172

LD031740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Communique No 1,172 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Exchanges of artillery fire continued yesterday in the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operational theater and on the western fronts with the heroic forces of Islam maintaining superior firepower. Our mighty combatants stationed in those sectors brought enemy positions under fire, inflicting losses and casualties.

On one of the western fronts, two vehicles carrying ammunition and a number of personel bunkers of the enemy were destroyed by the heavy weapons fire of our forces; a number of mercenaries were killed.

Exchanges of fire continued in the Marivan sector where our forces dispatched reconnaissance and patrol groups, inflicting sharp losses on the enemy.

Our combative forces stationed on the banks of the Arvand Rud yesterday brought enemy positions on the other side of the river under fire, neutralizing enemy activities, silencing their fire, damaging their fortifications, and killing or injuring a number of them.

Our forces yesterday brought enemy assembly points in one of the fronts of the Moharram operational theater under fire and inflicted losses.

The Saddamist criminals yesterday brought the residential areas of Abadan under heavy weapons fire, destroying a number of houses and causing extensive damage.

During the past 24 hours, enemy air raids and reconnaissance flights over southern and western operational sectors and border towns promptly were countered by the strategic measures taken by Air Force fighter planes and by antiaircraft fire.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRNA REPORTS ON RECENT BATTLE SUCCESSES

40 Iraqis Killed

LD302010 Tehran IRNA in English 1917 GMT 30 Dec 82

[Text] Bakhtaran, Dec. 30 IRNA -- More than 40 Iraqi troops were killed as movements [words indistinct] of the enemy were checked by the Islamic defenders during the battle operations in the western fronts over the 24 hours preceding Thursday.

Meanwhile, artillery fire exchanges continued between the two sides in the said regions, being more intense in the Nowsud and Meymak fronts, during the same time. Several enemy tank positions and trenches were also smashed in these operations.

Activities Halted

LD302002 Tehran IRNA in English 1919 GMT 30 Dec 82

[Text] Ahvaz, Dec 30. IRNA -- the Islamic defenders returned enemy fire, halting the combat engineering activities of the Iraqis in the Moharram and Ramadan operational regions over the past 24 hours. Also, 15 Iraqi troops were killed as the enemy positions beyond the Arvand River came under the Iranian artillery fire which smashed one Iraqi 82-mm mortar launcher, one calibre 75 machine gun and some canals during the same time.

IRAQI AIRCRAFT BOMBARD DEHLORAN; 5 KILLED

LD022026 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 2 Jan 83

[Text] The Iraqi aggressor aircraft once again by bombarding the city of Dehloran in the Iranian Province of Ilam martyred five civilians and wounded another six. The [word indistinct] of the region also sustained damage.

TWO AUSTRALIANS DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA

LD011736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Jan 83

[Text] Two staff members of the Australian Embassy in Tehran were declared persona non grata and expelled from the Islamic Republic of Iran on the grounds of insulting Islamic sanctity.

In connection with the event, a Foreign Ministry spokesman announced: Some time ago two Muslim sisters went to the Australian Embassy in Tehran to get visas. They were humiliated and insulted by two of that embassy's staff, who asked them for photographs without the Islamic hejab [scarf covering the hair]. The two Muslim sisters refused the request. The spokesman added: In view of the fact that the Foreign Ministry of Iran does not tolerate insult to Islamic sanctity, the two Australian Embassy staff are declared persona non grata and will be expelled from the Islamic Republic of Iran.